

We claim:

1. A method of reducing recovery time of a mammal undergoing general anaesthesia comprising the administration of an effective amount of D-Ribose to  
5 said mammal.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose is administered orally before and after general anaesthesia.
- 10 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose is from 2 to 10 grams and is administered two to four times daily.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein an effective amount of pyrogen-free D-Ribose is administered intravenously during and after general anaesthesia.  
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5. The method of claim 4 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose is 20-300 mg/kg/hour.
6. A method of reducing recovery time of a mammal undergoing general  
20 anaesthesia wherein an effective amount of D-Ribose is administered orally to the mammal when the mammal is able to ingest the D-Ribose and an effective amount of pyrogen-free D-Ribose is administered intravenously to the mammal when the mammal is unconscious or otherwise unable to ingest the D-Ribose.
- 25 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the effective amount of D-Ribose to be administered orally is 2 to 10 gm and is administered two to four times daily and the effective amount of pyrogen-free D-Ribose to be administered intravenously is 20-300 mg/kg/hour.
- 30 8. A method for enhancing recovery from sepsis comprising of the administration of D-Ribose to the mammal suffering from sepsis.

9. A composition suitable for intravenous administration comprising substantially pure, pyrogen-free D-Ribose.

5 10. The composition of claim 9 further comprising D-Glucose.

11. The composition of claim 10 comprising 5% to 10% pyrogen-free D-Ribose and 5% to 10% D-Glucose.

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